

5K - SPECIAL EDUCATION EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Special education preschool pupils may be counted in membership if they are enrolled and receiving instruction from a certificated special education teacher based upon each pupil's individual needs as specified by the Individualized Educational Plan (IEP). Special education preschool pupils generate two-tenths of a full-time equated membership (.2 FTE) for each day of instruction they receive per week under the supervision of a certificated special education teacher in a bona fide special education program.

Days that preschool pupils only receive services (not instruction), such as speech, occupational therapy, physical therapy, psychological or social work services may not be counted for pupil membership purposes.

A. Requirements for Counting Membership

A local or intermediate school district may count a special education preschool pupil for membership if the district has evidence that all of the following occurred.

1. The pupil's individualized education program (IEP) was on file and effective as of the count day.
2. The pupil was enrolled as of the count day in a bona fide special education preschool program that provided the minimum number of days and hours of instruction required by the special education rules to be counted in pupil membership as follows:

Program Description

Minimum Days/Minimum Hours

Mild Cognitive Impairment, Moderate Cognitive Impairment, Learning Disabled (LD), Hearing Impaired (HI), Visually Impaired (VI), Physically or Otherwise Health Impaired (POHI), Severely Language Impaired (SLI), Emotionally Impaired (EI), Early Childhood Special Ed Programs, Resource Room (RR), Autistic Impaired (AI), Severe Cognitive Impairment,

144 days/360 hours

Severely Multiply Impaired (SXI) 230 days/1,150 hours

Early Childhood Special Ed Services* 72 hours within the required number of days; minimum of two hours per week

*Pupils not scheduled the minimum numbers of hours may not be counted as a partial membership.

3. The pupil must have been assigned to a certificated special education preschool teacher. Special education preschool pupils, whose IEP assigned them to non-classroom services as specified in R340.1755, may be assigned to an approved ancillary or other related service staff person who provides instruction under the direction of a certificated special education preschool teacher. Evidence must exist that a certificated special education preschool teacher supervised the content of instruction.
4. The pupil received instructional service hours during the count period, documented by appropriate attendance records.

Example A: A five year old attending a program for mildly cognitive impaired five days each week is counted for a full membership.

Example B: A three year old attending an early childhood special education program, operating 144 days and 360 hours, four days a week, is counted for four-fifths (.80) membership.

Example C: A pupil receiving early childhood special education classroom services under 340.1754 of the Special Education Rules, for one hour on Monday and one hour on Wednesday is counted for two-fifths (.40) membership.

B. Regulatory References

State Aid Act Sections:

388.1606(4)(l)

School Code Sections:

380.1711(1)(f)

380.1751(1)

Administrative Rules:

340.4(d)

340.5(l)(j)

340.7(1)

340.7(9)

340.1754

340.1755

Eligibility of Pupils in Nonclassroom Services to Preprimary Age Children for State Membership Aid, Michigan Department of Education, Special Education Interpretation II-025, September 1991

Q #1

A special education preschool pupil is scheduled for five days per week for 144 days. Is this pupil eligible for 1.0 FTE?

A #1

No. The 144 days and 360 hour requirement is the minimum number of days and hours a pupil must be scheduled and provided for the district to receive any membership. The maximum FTE generated for a pupil receiving only 144 days is .8 FTE. For a pupil to generate a full 1.0 FTE, the pupil needs to be scheduled and provided a five-day-a-week program operated during the same school calendar as general education.